Low production of Chemicals and Pesticides

2071. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of alkali, inorganic, organic chemicals, pesticides, dyes and dyestuffs has been below the installed capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to make optimum use of the installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Chemical Industry has been considerably de-regulated. There is no control on the production, distribution and pricing of chemicals. A large number of organic/inorganic chemicals, dyes and pesticides are being manufactured in large, medium scale and the small-scale sector. This Department does not monitor the production data of these chemicals. However, as per data available, the production of major chemicals has increased to 7374963 MT in the year 2004-05, from 5963434MT in the Year 2001-02.

Subsidy on fertilizers

2072. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total subsidy on fertilizers during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, category wise (urea, DAP, super phosphate, etc.);

(b) the mechanism through which this subsidy is distributed, and whether this benefits the producer or the consumer farmer;

(c) what percentage of subsidy on a bag of fertilizer (category-wise) goes to the poor farmer; and

(d) whether Government have any scheme to improve the existing fertilizer subsidy policy and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The details of subsidy paid on fertilizers during 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given in the Table below: